

**ORDER: AUTHORIZE COUNTY ENGINEER, LARRY BRITT TO SUBMIT  
APPLICATIONS FOR THE EMERGENCY ROAD AND BRIDGE  
REPAIR FUND ON BEHALF OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY**


Motion was made by Mike Roberts, duly seconded by Kevin Frye, to authorize County Engineer, Larry Britt to submit applications for the Emergency Road and Bridge repair fund on behalf of Lafayette County.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Supervisor Kevin Frye, voted yes  
Supervisor Jeff Busby, voted yes  
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes  
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes  
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Busby, declared the motion carried, this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018.

  
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Jeff Busby, President  
Board of Supervisors

  
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Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk

# EMERGENCY ROAD & BRIDGE REPAIR FUND PROGRAM

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## 1) What is the ERBRF Program?

Recognizing the significance transportation infrastructure has on the State's economy and its importance to the citizens for mobility, the Mississippi Legislature established the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund (ERBRF) through the Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2018 (the "Act"), Section 8, House Bill 1 from the 2018 Extraordinary Session to revitalize public roads and bridges across the state. In addition to establishing the ERBRF, the Legislature also provided the necessary authority to initially fund the program up to \$250 million.

## 2) What criteria will be used to select projects?

Through collaboration and input from the ERBRF Advisory Board and local governments, the following key criteria have been incorporated into the project selection process:

- Safety
- Emergency Vehicle Access
- Condition of Bridges
- Detour Length
- Economic Impacts
- Project Readiness
- Traffic Volume
- Truck Volume
- Facility Type
- Regional Significance
- Innovative Financing or Design
- Access to Schools

## 3) How are applications submitted?

MDOT has established a website that will provide any updates to the ERBRF Program. When a call for projects is open, an online application will be made available through this website. You may access the ERBRF website from [www.GoMDOT.com](http://www.GoMDOT.com).

## 4) Who may submit applications?

Any entity that owns a public road or bridge may submit an application for funding.

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## 5) What types of projects may be submitted?

Projects eligible for the ERBRF Program must meet the goals of the program. These goals are:

Goal 1 – Fund projects that meet an existing SAFETY concern to the traveling public.

Goal 2 – Fund projects that restore COMMERCE and the ECONOMIC VITALITY of the community, region, state, or nation.

Goal 3 – Fund projects that address existing issues of impeding MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY on public roadways.

Goal 4 – Fund projects that can be designed and constructed to MEET THE INTENT OF HB 1.

Examples of these type projects could include bridge replacement or rehabilitation, geometric improvements, safety improvements, pavement rehabilitation, operational improvements, or upgrading low-weight roads to legal truck weight limits.

## 6) Is a project for a new road or alignment eligible?

No. In accordance with the legislation, "Money in the fund shall be utilized...to provide funding for emergency repairs to roads, streets and highways in this state and emergency bridge repairs [including replacement] on public roads, streets and highways in this state."

## 7) Should multiple bridges be included in a single application?

Multiple bridges along the same route in need of replacement or rehabilitation may be included in a single application. All bridge replacements within a single jurisdiction should not be in a single application if they are not on a contiguous route (between major commerce routes or economic generators).

## 8) Can structures that are not on the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) be submitted for replacement or rehabilitation?

Yes. Non-NBI structures, boxes and bridges less than 20ft. that are not on the National Bridge Inventory, can be submitted in the same manner as a NBI bridge. In Section 5 of the application, input all of the requested information with the exception of the Structure Number, which is only applicable to bridges on the NBI. Additionally, the applicant should submit a NBI level inspection for all non-NBI structures with the application.

## 9) Are reimbursements for prior expenditures on a project allowable?

No. There will be no reimbursement for expenditures occurring prior to the grant award date.

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## 10) When will applicants find out if their project has been selected?

Upon the closing of project solicitation, MDOT will act expeditiously to evaluate applications. With that being said, the number of applications received and complexity of evaluating projects of differing scopes will dictate the time required to select projects. It is expected that the evaluation and selection process will take approximately four to six weeks.

## 11) How long does a local agency have to complete the project?

For the initial round of funding, recipient must make every effort to expend all funds within 36 months of award. Should deviation from this schedule arise, the recipient must notify MDOT in writing, with a copy of any required approvals (i.e., board, commission), of the specific details of delay and request an extension.

## 12) Are there restrictions on the amount of funds that may be awarded to a project?

No. Projects will be evaluated and ranked based on criteria established through the collaborative process and input received from the ERBRF Advisory Board and local governments.

## 13) What are the roles of the Mississippi Transportation Commission (MTC) and MDOT in the ERBRF program?

The MTC has the following responsibilities:

- By resolution, declare the necessity for the issuance of any part or all of the revenue bonds
- Unanimously approve the use of funds for emergency repairs to public roads, streets and highways and emergency bridge repairs or replacements on public roads, streets and highways
- Authorize the Executive Director of MDOT, as required under current statute, to take required action to implement and administer the ERBRF program including the development of rules and regulations

MDOT has the following responsibilities:

- Implement and administer the ERBRF program
- Establish the rules, regulations, and guidance required to implement the ERBRF program
- Develop a process by which state and local projects are evaluated and funded